



Haverhill

Office of the Mayor, Room 100
Phone: 978-374-2300 Fax: 978-373-7544
Mayor@cityofhaverhill.com

For Immediate Release:

4/11/13

Mayor Pays Respect to the Proclamation of Donate a Life Month

Today, Mayor James J. Fiorentini met with life coach Dottie Lessard for the proclamation of Donate a Life Month.

The meeting, arranged by Matthew Boger, State Relations for New England Organ Bank, was intended to raise awareness of those in need of organ donations and/or transplants. Lessard, 44, is the survivor of Cystic Fibrosis, a condition that doctors predicted would not allow her to live past the age of 2. In spite of her condition, Lessard is the recipient of several Gold Medals in the U.S. Transplant Games. Lessard was also granted the honor of carrying the Olympic Torch through Boston and has been acclaimed as one of Boston's Exceptional Women. In addition to being both wife and mother, she is also the president and founder of Dottie's Dream, an organization that helps kids who are going through the same fight she found in her youth.

Donate A life is an annual event held in April to pay tribute to organ and tissue donors and their families whose decision to Donate Life enables others to receive life-saving organs and tissues for transplant.

Mayor Fiorentini stated:

"I was moved by hearing Dottie's story. It showed that despite all she had been through, with the transplants and the surgeries, she remained strong throughout the way. I believe her story is one we can all look up to. Anyone who has gone through or is going through what she has been through will find strength in hearing Dottie's story."



(Mayor Fiorentini gathers for the proclamation of Donate a Life)